

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 4 are rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable in view of McDaid. Claims 2 and 5 are rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over McDaid in view of Myers or Lee. In response, Applicant has amended Claim 1 to more clearly distinguish over the prior art.

In particular, Applicant has amended Claim 1 to provide that the claimed arrangement includes an oblong circular cavity formed in the planar side surface of the cavity with an undercut portion extending along about 180° of one side, and further comprising a flanging circular rib configured to fit into said cavity, said rib being of a width of less than said undercut portion so that fitting the attachment member into shiftable engagement with the undercut portion prevents a head-on releasing thereof from the cavity.

This difference is best illustrated with reference to Figure 3 of the reference, and Figures 6-8 of the application.

Firstly, it is noted that the undercut portion extends on only one side of the oblong-shaped body. Although it can be argued that McDaid, which shows two undercut portions, by definition also has one undercut portion, by having only the one undercut portion, as called for in the claim, the attachment member after being fitted into the cavity, is shiftable into engagement with the undercut portion thereby preventing a head-on releasing thereof from the cavity. It should be apparent from Figure 3 of McDaid, the McDaid lock has a different structure which causes it to operate in a completely different way in that the body 70, must slide onto member 24, and cannot be shifted into engagement with an undercut portion after fitting the attachment member into the cavity as required by the claim.

Further, the claim calls for the body being further provided with a locking device having a locking pin projectable into the cavity to restrain the shifting of the attachment member from a first shifted position thereof. McDaid contains no teachings or suggestions of a locking device having a structure including any locking pin projectable into a cavity to restrain the shifting of the attachment member. The other cited references Myers and Lee are relied upon to teach a push-in type lock. However, these references do not cure the structural elements missing from McDaid which distinguish the present invention over the prior art.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that the claims pending for examination, namely Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 are now in condition for allowance, which early action is requested.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge those fees to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666. If a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of this Application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (310) 207-3800.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: _____

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Linda Metz

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